

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed November 3, 2005. Claims 1-51 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 4, 12-44, 46 and 48-51 have been withdrawn from further consideration. By this paper Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 11, 43, and 47 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been added and the amendments are fully supported by the specification. For example, see Figures 3-9 and the supporting text in the specification. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the examiner objected to claims 5, 6 and 11 because of informalities. Claims 5, 6, and 11 have been amended in accordance with the Examiners suggestions. Thus, Applicants respectively request that the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 43, 45 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,501,349 to Jokilehto et al. ("Jokilehto"). In rejecting these claims, the Examiner stated that "Jokilehto et al. teaches an inner conductor of resonator structure comprising an elongated conductive body (21) with a flange (302) formed on one end as shown in Fig. 4b, wherein the flange is formed integrally with the conductive body in a process in which the end of the conductive body is pressed against a flanging tool (100) such that the conductive body is sized and shaped as shown in Figs. 3-4b (see also col. 4, line 18 to col. Col. 6, line 62)."

Jokilehto is not directed to the construction of an inner conductor, but to "an arrangement for fastening an inner conductor of a resonator structure." (Jokilehto Col. 1, lines 5-6). Jokilehto goes on to describe that "the inner conductor is shorted-circuited to the fastening surface" (Jokilehto Col. 1, lines 28-29, see also Col. 3, lines 38-41).

Jokilehto describes that a "fastening arrangement comprises an expander 100 brought and thereby fastened in place to the inner space 210 of the inner conductor 21 placed in the opening 52 formed through the fastening surface structure 4. (Jokilehto

Col. 4, lines 6-17 and Figure 1-4b). In other words, as shown in Figure 4b of Jokilehto, an "inner conductor 21" is attached to a "fastening surface structure 21" by "pressing the wall 211 surrounding the inner space 210 of the inner conductor 21 against the edge 51 of the opening 52 of the fastening surface." (Jokilehto Col. 5 lines 16-27, and Figure 4b).

In contrast to Jokilehto, Claim 1 describes an inner conductor recites a "flange formed integrally with the conductor for use in a resonator." Unlike Jokilehto, Claim 1 does not describe a flange for attaching the inner conductor to a surface of the resonator, whereas Jokilehto describes an expander for attaching a resonator structure to the cavity floor. Claim 1 recites a "flanging tool" used "such that the conductive body is sized and shaped so the flange provides a desired capacitance surface area." Furthermore, in contrast to Jokilehto's expanded surface at an attachment end of an inner conductor, Claim 1 recites flanging the non-attached end of the inner conductor.

Thus Applicant respectfully submits that Jokilehto does not disclose all of the limitations of Claim 1. Thus, Claim 1 is patentably distinct over Jokilehto. Claims 3 and 5-11 depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 1 and are also patentably distinct over Jokilehto.

Claim 43 includes similar limitations to Claim 1, and for reasons similar to those discussed in relation to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 43 is patentably distinct over Jokilehto. Claims 45 and 47 depend directly from Claim 43 and are also patentably distinct over Jokilehto.


Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for finding that Claim 8, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of intervening claims, would be allowable. Applicant respectfully submits, for the reasons stated above, that the claims from which Claim 8 depends are now in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicants request that the objection to Claim 8 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims in the application, Claims 1, 3, 5-11, 43, 45, and 47, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and further examination of the application are requested. A Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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